

REMARKS:

This is responsive to the final Office Action dated April 20, 2005 in which Claims 23, 27-41 and 46 are allowed, and Claims 43-45 are admitted to have allowable subject matter. However, the Examiner rejects claims 5, 6, 42 and 47 as being anticipated by Izraelev (US Patent No. 5,924,848) under 35USC §102(e).

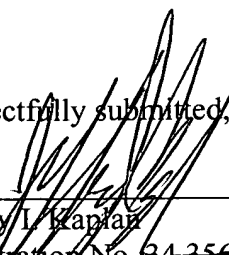
In the amendments, Applicants have cancelled claims 5, 6 and 42 without prejudice, thus the rejection to these claims under 35USC §102(e) is considered moot, and no discussion of the limitations of these claims is presented herein. Previously-withdrawn claim 1 is also now cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 43 and 45 have been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations in their now-cancelled base claim 42, and believed now allowable. Claims 44 and 47 are dependent to claim 43, and therefore are also believed allowable.

With the above amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims 23, 27-41 and 43-47 remained in the application are in good condition for allowance, and thus respectfully request prompt allowance of the application. The Examiner is invited to call the below-listed attorney to resolve any outstanding matters. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any fees believed due from, or credit any overpayment to, our Deposit Account No. 11-0223.

Dated: May 17, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 17, 2005

Signature: 

Print Name: Paula M. Halsey

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